GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2773
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
DIVERSION OF TRIBUTARY OF CAUVERY RIVER
C. SREENIVAASAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala propose to divert a tributary of Cauvery river in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the diversion would adversely affect the already water starved Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d): The State of Kerala has sanctioned a scheme in September, 1997 for utilisation of 0.718 TMC of water ofBhavani river for irrigating 2000 ha. of land and for providing drinking water supply for a population of 22000 in the drought prone areas of Mannarkkad, Anamooli and Thenkara villages of Palakkad district andhas taken up the scheme for construction during 2002. According to Tamil Nadu, the State is fully dependent on the water ofBhavani river for drinking and irrigation purposes in the drought prone areas of Coimbatore District. The Government of Tamil Nadu has mentioned that it is getting a number of representations from the farmers in the Bhavani valley downstream that if this Scheme is undertaken by the State of Kerala,their present use will be badly affected and practically no water will flow down below Kerala border in the Bhavani valley. The Stateof Tamil Nadu has objected to the undertaking of construction of the scheme by the State of Kerala and filed a Petitionbefore the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in January, 2003. The matter is before the Tribunal.